



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Consumer
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

1244 Speer Boulevard
Denver, CO
80204-2581

SP-02-05

Reply to
Attn of:

NOV 13 2001

Subject:

Clarification of Traditional and Enhanced Food-Based Meal
Pattern in the School Breakfast Program

To:

STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS -
(Child Nutrition Programs)

Colorado ED Iowa, Kansas,
Missouri ED, Montana OPI,
Nebraska ED, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

This memorandum clarifies the term "equivalent combination" found in the traditional and enhanced food-based meal pattern charts at Section 220.8(g)(2) and Section 220.8(g)(3) of the School Breakfast Program regulations. The charts entitled "Traditional Food-Based Menu Planning Approaches-Meal Pattern for Breakfast" and "Enhanced Food-Based Menu Planning Approaches-Meal Pattern for Breakfast", respectively, include a statement in the "Food Components and Food Items" column, above "Grains/Breads" which reads: "Select one serving from each of the following components, two from one component, or an equivalent combination." This option is designed to provide menu planners with additional flexibility.

The term "equivalent combination" refers to combining the grains/breads, combining the meat/meat alternates, or combining the grains/breads and meat/meat alternates to meet the meal requirement. The minimum serving size allowed is 0.25 oz meat (or meat alternate) or 1/4 serving grains/bread. For example, instead of serving one serving of grains/breads and one serving of meat/meat alternates, a school could offer 1 1/2 serving of grains/breads and 1/2 serving of meat/meat alternates.

State Agency Directors

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If you have any questions regarding this policy please
contact our office.

BRIAN ALLISON
Acting Regional Director
Child Nutrition Programs

bcc: All Field Offices
Stella Nash
Mary Nielsen (one routing copy)